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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE 0/590706

In re application of

Susumu TSUKAMOTO et al.

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Serial No. NEW

Attorney Docket No. 2006-1404A

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LASER WELDING METHOD [Corresponding to PCT/JP2005/003417 Filed February 23, 2005]

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced U.S. patent application please amend the application as follows: